

Creation Groans - and God Will Redeem It

Romans 8:18-25 | Colossians 1:15-20 | Acts 3:19-21

CENTRAL TRUTH: In Christ, God does not abandon the bodies and creation wounded by sin; he will liberate creation from decay, raise his children, and restore all things under Christ's reconciling lordship.

Creation's Movement in Christ

Romans 8	Colossians 1	Acts 3	Our response
Creation groans and waits for liberation with God's children	Christ creates, sustains, and reconciles all things through the cross	God promises the restoration of all things when Christ returns	Receive with gratitude, lament truthfully, and practice faithful care

REMEMBER: Christian hope is neither escape from creation nor confidence in our ability to save it ourselves. Christ is Savior. Because creation belongs to him, we receive it gratefully and care for it faithfully.

Queries for Reflection

- What is creation waiting for in Romans 8?
- What does Christ's reconciliation of 'all things' teach me about the reach of the gospel?
- What has God placed within my reach to receive, protect, repair, or tend?

My Faithful Act of Care

Choose one: Person | Place | Creature | Community

The groaning I cannot ignore is: _____

This week, faithful care will look like:

The person who can help me remain steady and accountable is:

Prayer

Creator God, let me receive your world with gratitude, lament its wounds without despair, and care for what you have placed within my reach. Keep Jesus Christ at the center of my hope and make mercy visible through my life. Amen.

For Next Wednesday

Week Five - Why Resurrection Matters

Read: Heaven, chapters 11-13.

Bring: One question about resurrection bodies or why all creation awaits our resurrection.